Following new line proposals pertaining to Tamil Nadu have been processed for necessary approvals subject to the condition that State Government shares 50% of the cost of the projects:—

(i) Thanjavur-Ariyalur (50.35 kms)

(ii) Morapur-Dharmapuri (35.9 kms)

(iii) Dindigul-Kumuli *via* Bodinayakkanur (134 kms)

(iv) Tiruvannamalai-Jolarpettai (98.08 kms)

(v) Needamanglam-Pattukottai *via* Mannargudi (54.3 kms)

(b) and (c) The ongoing projects are being progressed as per availability of resources.

Rail cum Road overbridge over Brahmaputra at Saraighat

148. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has conducted the survey for the second Rail cum Road Bridge over Brahmaputra at Saraighat;

(b) if so, the details of assessment made thereof;

(c) when the survey is likely to be completed;

(d) whether the Government of Assam has represented for converting the proposed road bridge at Saraighat under NHDP to a rail cum road bridge; and

(e) if so, the details pre-feasibility and economy thereof and the response of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) A survey for construction of rail bridge only over river Brahmaputra adjacent to existing Saraighat rail cum road bridge has been conducted. As per the survey, cost of the project has been worked out as Rs. 300.67 crore.

(d) and (e) Chief Minister, Assam had written in this regard. No survey has so far been conducted. Prima facie, it has been considered that the existing broad gauge lines *via* Saraighat bridge and *via* Jogighopa bridge alongwith gauge conversion of Rangia-Murkongselek and Bogibeel bridge would be able to meet the traffic requiremnet.

National Projects in NER

149. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned and utilized for execution of various National Projects in the NER during the last two years and the allocation made for the year 2008-09 in Railway budget as well as General Budget 2008-09 against each project; and

(b) the progress made on various components of works and target set for those projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Details of funds allocated and actually spent on each of the National Projects in the last 2 years and the allocation made during 2008-09 are as under:—